

## MX COORDINATION OFFICE [685]

### MX MISSILE DEPLOYMENT IMPACT PLANNING AND SUBJECT FILES, 1978-1981.

9.50 CU. FT.

**DESCRIPTION:** Records in this series include all types of studies, reports, correspondence, newspaper clippings, magazines, and maps collected by the staff of the office to help them better evaluate potential impacts of the deployment of the MX missile system in Utah and Nevada.

Much of the material relates to the activities of specific private and military contractors who had been hired by the U.S. Air Force to study both the potential environmental impacts of missile deployment in the area, and to choose the best sites for operating bases and the missile tracking system. Most reports, studies, and supporting material were acquired through a lengthy process of location and identification. Constant communication with Air Force officials was required to coordinate the planning process and to locate information. Staff learned of the activities of the individual contractors and pressed Air Force officials for copies of their reports and raw data.

Once collected, staff members evaluated the studies and reports in terms of how they might directly affect both local communities in the deployment area and the environment in general. Documents were often circulated to other state agency personnel or to technical experts hired by the state, and any comments from these sources were kept and also used as background data for the formal response to the Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Smaller studies, not directly related to the formal environmental evaluation process undertaken by the Air Force, are filed in this series and not in #4254, which contains the Draft Environmental Impact Statement itself and many of the accompanying technical reports. The most important of these is the Bureau of Land Management study done for the land withdrawal and acquisition process. Others focused upon anticipated impacts to transportation

systems, vegetation, water rights, etc..

Some material related to federal aid programs available to help mitigate impacts of missile deployment was also collected and analyzed. The effort to coordinate a state level response to the project also contributed to some of this documentation. State planning activities can be traced mainly through the correspondence between the Utah office and personnel in the MX offices of Nevada, and between the Utah office and the MX Missile Policy Board.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Organized alphabetically by subject. Some file units are subdivided by type of document.

**RELATED RECORDS:** Similar coordination and planning activities in relation to the MX project are documented by series #4267, the ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS of this office. The most direct relationship, however, is with series 4254, the MX DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS AND TECHNICAL REPORTS. Evaluating the environmental impact statement was top priority for Coordination Office staff, and many of the chapters of the technical studies included in the statement, as well as the statement itself, is organized in that series. The acquisition of these studies can be traced through the documents collected in this series.

A more formal evaluation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is found in series #4273, MX DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT EVALUATION RECORDS. Many of the initial criticisms developed in the formal evaluation can be traced to documents found in this series. The evolution of thinking about the technical studies and about the ultimate impact of the project can be better understood by consulting both.

Series #5646, PLANNING REPORTS, of the southern Utah based MX Missile Policy Board show how that office used some of this data in the planning process. Members of the Policy Board and the Utah MX Coordination Office frequently exchanged ideas and information.

**CUSTODY HISTORY:** After the Utah Mx Coordination Office was closed in 1981, the State Office of Planning and Budget acquired the files and used them as a reference resource. Transfer to the archives occurred in 1984.

**PROCESSING NOTE:** Archival processing of the series was completed in 1987 by Brent Brinkerhoff.

## CONTAINER LIST

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1	2	Agricultural Impacts

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2	28	Bureau of Land Management-Temporary Land Use Permits
2	29	Bureau of Land Management-Temporary Land Use Permits
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